Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention is directed to methods and compositions for the detection of a ligand in a cell containing sample by contact with a binding agent capable of binding said ligand, isolating cells from said sample, and detecting said ligand by detection of a nucleic acid marker conjugated to said binding agent. The invention may be practiced either quantitatively or qualitatively. Detection of ligand from a sample containing as few as one to two cells is described.